National Incident Management System FAQ

1. What is the National Incident Management System (NIMS)?

a. NIMS was implemented as a result of Homeland Security Presidential Directive 5 (HSPD-5) that requires federal agencies to create a universal system of responding to all incidents.

b. NIMS provides a systematic, proactive approach to guide and agencies at all levels of government, nongovernmental organizations, and the private sector to work seamlessly to prevent, protect against, respond to, recover from, and mitigate the effects of incidents, regardless of cause, size, location, or complexity, in order to reduce the loss of life and property and harm to the environment.

c. NIMS works hand in hand with the National Response Framework (NRF). NIMS provides the template for the management of incidents, while the NRF provides the structure and mechanisms for national-level policy for incident management.

2. Who is required to be NIMS compliant?

Governor's Executive Order No. 20-04, states that West Virginia will adopt the National Incident Management System (NIMS) as the standard by which all incidents will be managed. Additionally any direct recipient of federal DHS grant funding must meet NIMS compliance requirements.

3. How can my organization become NIMS compliant?

Compliance is achieved by adopting NIMS through your agency/jurisdictions formal adoption procedures, and by submitting the **NIMS Data Collection Survey**. If you do not have a copy of the data collection tool please contact the State NIMS Coordinator at 304-558-2930.

4. Who determines the level of training required?

Each organization's leadership determines who requires ICS training and what level of training is required based on job functions and other organizational needs. **For additional guidance the NIMS Training Program Manual is located at** http://www.fema.gov/emergency/nims/ **or at,** http://www.dmaps.wv.gov **under the FAQ tab.**

5. What are the consequences of County and Local jurisdictions or agencies not becoming NIMS compliant?

If County and Local Jurisdictions are not in compliance, they are ineligible to apply for Federal Homeland Security grant funding and may cause the State to become ineligible for any Homeland Security grant money. Please see HSPD-5 at http://www.fema.gov/emergency/nims/ .

6. How do I determine the correct NIMS resource typing definitions?

a. Go to www.fema.gov
b. In the "**Plan, Prepare, Mitigation Section**" located at the top left of the page, select the "**National Incident Management System**"**.**
c. Under "**Information & Documents**" select "**Resource Typing Definitions & Credentialing**".
d. Here you'll find additional information and links to the currently available Resource Typing Definitions.